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ACCEPTED

Legal 4-7-05

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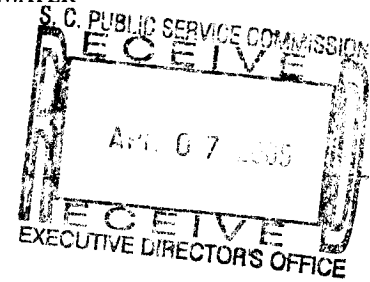
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04/04/05

KATIE C. MORGAN
DIRECTOR

TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORTATION, WATER/WASTEWATER

April 4, 2005

Mr. Charles Terreni
Chief Clerk/Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
P.O. Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29211



IN RE: Docket No. 2004-359-C - SBC Telecom, Inc. And Southwestern Bell Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a SBC Long Distance - Joint Petition For Consent And Approval To Assign Certificate Of Convenience And Necessity Providing Telecommunications Services To Customers Throughout The State Of South Carolina (2) Motion For Leave To File Confidential Materials Under Seal (3) Request For Expedited Action

Dear Mr. Terreni:

ORS has reviewed the referenced Application. The Company to date has not provided any verified testimony in support of the Application. Through the filing, the Applicants indicated that the consumer would not be impacted by the proposed merger of SBC Telecom, Inc. into Southwestern Bell Communications, Inc. d/b/a SBC Long Distance.

Exhibit 5 of the Application is a copy of the customer notification. The notification indicates after the merger that customers would receive local service from SBC Long Distance with the same rates, features, terms and conditions as currently received from SBC Telecom, Inc.

To date, the ORS is unaware of any consumer protest or complaints relative to the proposed transaction. It appears that this proposed transaction would be nearly transparent to the customer. After consideration of the materials submitted in support of the Application, ORS has no objection to the approval of this matter on an expedited basis.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns related to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jim McDaniel
Program Manager -- Telecommunications
Office of Regulatory Staff

cc: Eric Fishman, Attorney for Applicants
Florence Belser, General Counsel
Katie C. Morgan - Director -
Telecommunications, Transportation, Water and Wastewater Division